



CAREER and TECHNICAL EDUCATION UPDATE April 1, 2014

Perkins Remaining Funds for 2013-2014

FRIENDLY REMINDER to all high school districts with an outstanding or remaining 2013-2014 Perkins allocation to please obligate your remaining funds before the end of this current school year. If you have questions regarding your Perkins balance or any submitted cash requests, please contact Charlotte McMilin, Perkins Accountant by phone at: 406.444.4403 or by email at: cmcmilin@mt.gov. If you have questions about obligating your Perkins funds, please contact either Brad King or Renee Harris. Brad can be reached at 406.444.4451 or by email at: bking2@mt.gov. Renee can be reached at: 406.994.6986 or by email at: rharris3@mt.gov.

CTE Spring Data Collection in AIM Continues

REMINDER: The CTE Spring Data Collection began March 1 and ends April 30, 2014. This AIM collection asks schools to identify all 12th grade high school students who meet the definition of a CTE Concentrator be identified as such in the AIM/Infinite Campus data system. High schools who receive funding from the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program must complete this CTE Spring Data Collection. Instructions for completing the CTE Spring Data Collection can be found at this link: http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#gpm1_6 For more information, contact Diana Fiedler at 406.444.9019 or dfiedler@mt.gov.

Montana Career Information System (MCIS) Update

MCIS Parent Handouts

Good career information is vital for students and parents when planning high school courses and postsecondary and career options. MCIS is used by almost every high school in the state as their source of career information. Because MCIS is free for all Montanans, parents also have access to the program but reaching out to parents with information on career resources is a challenge. In order to help schools provide information on MCIS to parents, we have created a series of handouts that can be given to parents at freshmen orientations, financial aid nights, parent teacher conferences, etc. There are three ways to get the handouts, download them from the website: <http://www.ourfactsyourfuture.org/cgi/career/?PAGEID=3&SUBID=302> or call 800-541-3904, or email mcrn@mt.gov to request as many copies as you'll need. Three of the handouts are geared for parents of high school students and two are geared for the parents of middle school students. Please specify which version of the handouts you'd like us to send to you if requesting printed copies.

MCIS information submitted by MCIS Director, Annette Miller, phone: (406) 444-2741;

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Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

No update at this time.

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FFA



No update at this time.

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Business Education

No update at this time.

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Montana BPA



Montana BPA 2014 State Leadership Conference: Serving Locally, Leading Globally

Secondary students from across the state of Montana attended the 2014 State Leadership Conference for the Montana association of Business Professionals of America in Billings, Montana, March 9-11, 2014.

The 2014 Montana BPA State Leadership Conference was held at City College Montana State University-Billings, the Holiday Inn Grand Montana and Convention Center, and the Billings Hotel and Convention Center. Thirteen hundred and fifty-eight students, local chapter advisors, and chaperones gathered in a spirit of friendship and goodwill as the Montana association assisted the members in "Serving Locally, Leading Globally" through participation in the areas of competitive events, leadership, community development, and professionalism.

During the three-day event, students demonstrated their knowledge in business and technological skills and abilities in over 60 different competitive events from within the five core assessment areas of Finance, Business Administration, Management Information Systems, Digital Communication & Design, and Management, Marketing & Communication. The top finalists in each event advance to compete at the National Leadership Conference this spring in Indianapolis, Indiana, April 30-May 4, 2014.

The state conference also included comedian, entertainer, and most importantly educator--keynote speaker Tyson Wooters, former "Oregon Duck" mascot and various workshops on topics including leadership, self-defense, emergency and crime scene investigation, international travel to build professional relationships, jitterbugging, and "Leading Globally by Serving the Greater Good in Your School" presented by Special Olympics Montana. Additionally, local chapters donated \$7,868.85 to Special Olympics Montana as their state-wide philanthropic organization, \$700 more than last year's contribution. The three largest Chapter contributors included Shields Valley High School, \$1,591.00; Sidney High School, \$1,000.00; and Colstrip High School with \$750.00.

Community members and Montana businesses also played a tremendous role in the success of the state conference by serving as judges for the competitive events. In addition, Montana BPA has received more than \$9,000.00 in financial support and/or in-kind support Montana business and education institutions as part of the corporate sponsor and education partnership program. One significant education partner is the Montana State University-Bozeman's College of Business who awarded two \$1000.00 scholarships to Montana BPA members Kristyn Lavery from North Star High School in Rudyard and Natalie Jeude from Flathead High School in Kalispell.

In non-event awards, Montana BPA awarded Silver Star Awards for Chapter Development to the Culbertson High School, Park City High School, Shields Valley High School, Billings Senior High School, Roundup High School, St. Regis High School, and Sidney High School chapter; two \$500.00 BPA scholarships Tori Hill, Sidney, and Kourtney Schott, Broadview; 75 Statesman Torch Awards; 37 Membership Recruiter Awards, 5 National "Student"



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Certification awards (these students will receive National recognition at the National Leadership Conference in Indianapolis), and the Spirit of Professionalism Award to the Culbertson High School chapter. Eighteen chapter advisors also received recognition for completing "Advisor" certification with National BPA last fall and will be recognized for their accomplishments at the National Leadership Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana, April 30-May 4.


During the state conference 10 secondary members participated in the state officer campaign process with the following six being elected to office for the 2014-2015 school year:

President: Callum Gannon, Park High School
Vice President: Luke Westbrook, Hobson High School
Secretary: McKenzie Stager, Superior High School
Communications Director: Kasey Gorder, Sidney High School
Public Relations Director: Darby Bogden, Cascade High School
Membership Director: Drew Mammel, Billings Senior High School

The 2015 Montana BPA State Leadership Conference again will be held in Billings March 8-10. As of March 24, 286 Montana advisors, students, and guests (42 chapters) are registered to attend the National Business Professionals of America Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana scheduled for April 30-May 4, 2014. Also as of March 24, 159 Montana students, advisors, and guests are registered for the special Montana Event, tour/luncheon at "Lucas Oil Field Stadium" which includes a tour of the Stadium and a scrumptious luncheon in the "Quarterback Room" on Wednesday, April 30 beginning at 10:30 a.m. Remember, this Special Event has room for only 200 people, so be sure to sign up soon if you are interested in attending.

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Montana DECA

 No update at this time.

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Family and Consumer Sciences Education

No update at this time.

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Montana FCCLA



No update at this time.

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Health Sciences Education

One of the areas of interest for health science programs is to increase the number of male students enrolled in our programs. This is not unusual...even medical schools now have more females enrolled than males! In Montana, we are working on three strategies to encourage male participation and completion in a health science pathway:

1. Offering EMT Basic training for any health science teacher that would like to offer this course as a capstone in their school.
2. July 21-22 we are offering Vet Science/One Health training in Missoula for any Ag Ed or Health Science teachers wishing to learn more about what this program entails. We are finalizing the details for the training and will release a registration form by April 15th.
3. We have partnered with Advancing Practice in Nursing to develop marketing/outreach strategies to encourage males to take a look at nursing as a career. There are so many avenues available to all nursing students that we will be highlighting.

Submitted by

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Montana HOSA



Annual State Leadership Conference Review

HOSA held its 10th Annual State Leadership Conference in Great Falls, March 13th-15th. Just under 250 students and advisors participated in a wide variety of competitive events from Biotechnology to Researched Prepared Speaking. Health care professionals from Benefis Hospital as well as our advisory board were judges for our events. We even had the Gallatin County Coroner and three detectives from the Great Falls Police Department who were judges for Forensic Medicine—an event where teams of two students have to determine whether a crime was committed through evidence, police reports and autopsy reports.

After the competitive events were completed, students participated in two different Leadership Trainings—one addressing communication and teamwork skills, while the second session helped students understand personality differences and learn new strategies for working with diverse groups. Dean John Garic from Highlands College, was the keynote speaker addressing medical law and ethics and the possible implications for future medical interventions.

Thank you to all of our advisors, students, judges, and board members for making our 10th annual conference a rousing success!

HOSA information submitted by Montana HOSA State Director, Megan Bones, phone: (406) 457-8023;

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Industrial, Trades and Technology Education

VRTEX 360—VIRTUAL WELDING SIMULATOR “TURNS GAMERS INTO WELDERS”

The Lincoln Electric Company has graciously provided a \$50,000 VRTEX 360 Virtual Welding Simulator Training System for students and instructors to experience at this year's SkillsUSA State Leadership and Skills Conference.

The VRTEX 360 is a software based training system that immerses the student in a virtual reality environment complete with sight, sound, and tactile sensations. The system can be used to simulate SMAW, GMAW, and FCAW welding processes as well as a variety of welding positions.



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The American Welding Society (AWS) President, Nancy Cole, highly recommends women to enter into this high paying and satisfying career field. It is estimated that there will be a need for 500,000 new employees in the welding field by 2018.

Submitted by

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SkillsUSA



We are now into the final countdown for the conference in Havre. There are still many things to be completed before the conference. Make sure your students have everything they need to compete and the required items are ready to be taken with them for their competitions. We have a few new conference chairpersons this year and I am still waiting to hear from them on any information they have to share with you regarding the upcoming competitions. I have posted a tentative schedule for the conference on the website under the Timeline/Events tab.

AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE STATE CONFERENCE

Again this year we will be selling state pins at the conference. The price is \$2 per pin. We will also be selling, at a discounted price, pins from previous years.

Also available will be raffle tickets for the Harley-Davidson Dyna Street Bobâ Motorcycle to be raffled off at the 2014 National Conference Awards Ceremony, Friday, June 27 in Kansas City. In addition, the bike will feature a custom paint job incorporating the SkillsUSA 50th anniversary design by Justin Barnes of JB Grafix. This event is made possible thanks to a generous donation by Harley-Davidson Motor Co., Inc. Tickets are \$5 each or five tickets for \$20. You do not need to be present to win.

***IN THE SPOTLIGHT!* Billings Career Center**

This article by Rob Rogers appeared in the *Billings Gazette*.

Students from the Career Center's SkillsUSA Club are headed up to Havre next month to compete with other Montana high schools with a little assist from some friends.

The Billings Home Builders Association donated \$1,200 to the club, enough to cover the costs of four students to travel and compete. In total, 12 are headed up to the competition. The Home Builders Association has a 38-year partnership with the Career Center, helping students build a home each year. The four students sponsored by the group are part of the Career Center's construction program. "Our mentors come out and volunteer on their work site," said Denise Smith, executive director of the HBA. "We're training our future workforce."

The SkillsUSA Club has a similar aim. It's a national club for high school students that focuses on teaching marketable skills to teens. Students with an interest in vocational work — everything from auto mechanics to welding to construction — get involved with the club and meet every Thursday after school, working in their respective interests. "It takes it a level up from class," said Nate Liebe, a senior from Skyview and president of the SkillsUSA Club. He's in the school's construction program. The club helps prepare them for careers in the fields they have interest by connecting them with professionals and helping them develop skills they'll need in the workforce. "For me, it was about furthering my experience with automotive (mechanics)," said Kyle McClintock, a senior from West.

But it's not all skills training and career preparation. A big part of the club is finding ways to serve in the community. Last winter, the club fixed up a 1988 Lincoln Town Car and donated it to a single mom living in the Montana Rescue Mission women's shelter. It's the third car in the last four years that Career Center students



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have fixed up and donated. Each time the school has a car it contacts the Rescue Mission, asking for help in finding the right recipient.

The chance for the 12 students to get up to Havre and compete is important to the school. Not only will they be demonstrating the skills they've learned so far, they'll be involved with leadership activities that will help in their career training. There will also be scholarships. "The kids we have come back with some pretty significant scholarship opportunities," said Ken Adams, who teaches at the Career Center and is the club's adviser.

But it's costly to go. The club must rent vans and pay for gas, food and lodging. In addition, they must cover the entrance fees for the competition. So the club fundraises throughout the school year to earn the money to go. The competition itself is challenging, but a lot of fun. Liebe is the only student of the 12 going this year who attended last year. At the 2013 contest, he and the other Career Center construction students had to build a wall. They were judged on safety, accuracy, quality and time. Dustin Huntington, a senior from Senior High, will be competing in welding this year. He believes the judges will look at accuracy and quality, but he's not sure. There's no list of requirements, he said. It'll certainly be a unique experience. "We really don't have too many competitions where you can just go weld," he said.

Capital High School

The week of February 28, Capital High School's SkillsUSA Chapter held a fundraiser. It was our second one for this year. This year we brought in over \$1,100 through silent auction items, dinner tickets, and a nail driving competition. Several local business donated silent auction items, and many students choose to make items in their shop classes. For instance, we had an industrial tech student make a shelf that brought in over fifty dollars. We also had a student auction off a hitch cover with a design of the buyer's choice. In addition, local business not only donated to our silent auction, but they also donated to our dinner. Tizer meats gave us our tri-tip meat at their price rather than the retail selling price, saving us tons of money, and Coca-Cola donate drinks for the dinner, even employees of Pacific Recycling came over and supported us again this year.

The community really came together to help support us with our state fundraising. Our school was also instrumental in supporting us. Staff and students all came out and bought dinner tickets, they also helped bid up our silent auction. Mr. Weber, our welding and machining teacher, spent most of his day cooking for us. A great idea that we implemented this year was a nail diving competition. It allowed for every to be competitive and encourage people to say. Next year we are looking at having other competitions to help demonstrate some of the skills that we do. We encourage other chapters to start a similar fundraiser in their home towns to.

Great Falls High School and Capital High School Host Regional Competitions

Regional Competitions were hosted by Great Falls High School and Capital High School. Thank you to both of these chapters and their advisors for working to make a regional competition for their area happen. It takes numerous hours to plan and execute a regional conference while at the same time making sure your students are ready to compete at the State Conference. Thank you to both of these chapters for all their hard work on behave of SkillsUSA Montana. Pictures of these events will be available on the website soon.

SkillsUSA information submitted by Montana SkillsUSA State Director, Cassie Huntley, cell phone: (406) 461-5016; Email: casshuntley@montanaskillsusa.com.

Montana TSA



Our State Leadership & Skills Conference is just around the corner... April 28-29 at the Montana Pavilion, Metra Park, Billings. Only a month away. We have been busy getting last minute details taken care of, time is flying by. If you have not registered yet please get it done soon.

The TSA advisor team has also been working with Lidia Haughey at Montana State University and Glen Bradbury at Bozeman High School to put together a summer Technology Update Conference. We should have the dates and agenda firmed up in a couple of weeks. We plan to be offer a TWO credit class at a reasonable price for all you teachers that are interested. More information will be coming soon.



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Montana TSA is proud to announce their “first” ever event sponsor ... **Montana GEAR-UP**. Craig (*who is a member of the Harlem GEAR-UP team*) recently attended a National GEAR-UP Conference in Orlando, Florida. Craig was able to spend time with both of the Montana GEAR-UP grant managers and Zach Hawkins, Montana State GEAR-UP Director. During the time he was able to find that GEAR-UP was focused on many of the same goals as Montana TSA. After several emails, phone conversations, and a final meeting Montana GEAR-UP has committed to purchasing a VEX Robotics field for TSA and sponsoring the VEX Robotics event at this years State Leadership Conference in Billings, MT. GEAR-UP (*Gaining Early Awareness & Readiness for Undergraduate Programs*) is a Federally funded grant program that helps high school students achieve the dream of attending and successfully completing college.

<http://mus.edu/GearUp/aboutGU.asp>

Above is a photo of TSA State Co-Advisor Craig Todd with Lucille Thomason, Montana GEAR-UP Eastern Grant Manager and Zach Hawkins, Montana State GEAR-UP Director.

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